

29 MAY 03

MEMORANDUM FOR Occupants of Government Quarters

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Instruction (MOI) – Ft. Campbell Home Alone and Curfew Policy.

1. Purpose: The purpose of this MOI is to:

- a. Establish a Ft. Campbell out-of-school “home alone” and “curfew” policy to address the ages and circumstances under which a child can be left at home alone without adult supervision during non-school hours.
- b. Emphasize the need for parents to arrange for the care and supervision of dependent children.
- c. Articulate the rationale for more stringent supervision requirements outlined in the MOI than required in AR 608-18, paragraph 3-5e, Indicators of Child Abuse.
- d. Provide parents with choices and information about a variety of supervision options for their elementary and middle school children.
- e. Define curfew and guidelines for high school youth.

2. Scope and Applicability: The guidance in this MOI specifically addresses:

- a. That all agencies and personnel cooperate to protect the safety of our children. Parents/guardians residing at Ft. Campbell will follow these instructions, which address basic standards, common sense, and good judgment must be used at all times.
- b. The day-to-day safety and protection of children and youth who are unsupervised or in self-care.
- c. Parental choices for provisions of safe supervision and age appropriate care options for elementary and middle school children during weekday parental duty hours.

3. Background: The need for an installation elementary and middle school child supervision policy during all non-school hours is outlined as follows:

- a. *Safeguarding children is a parental responsibility.* Parents generally fully accept this responsibility for children **nine (9)** years old and under. Parents tend to be less attentive in planning supervision for older elementary school children (*10-12 years-old*) and young teens (*13-17-years-old*) who are too old for child care, and, in many cases, too young to have an after-school job.
- b. Research indicates those unsupervised children are at risk for personal injury (*physical, emotional, and sexual*) to other persons and/or property, early sexual activity, substance abuse, and are more apt to engage in vandalism and petty crimes.
 1. Statistics from the National Center for Juvenile Justice shows that majority of juvenile violent crimes are committed between the hours of 1600 and 1800 hours.